

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-75. (canceled)

76. (new) A method for retrieving data for a set of objects prior to an explicit request for access to the data, each object in the set comprising a plurality of attributes, the method comprising:

- creating a structure context description that describes the set of objects;
- associating the structure context description with each object in the set of objects;
- receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first attribute of a first object in the set of objects; and

- in response to receiving the request:

- retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the first object;
 - returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the first object to the application;

- using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to the first attribute of other objects in the set of objects;

- retrieving the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects; and

- placing in cache the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects for future use.

77. (new) The method of claim 76, further comprising storing the structure context description in at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

78. (new) The method of claim 76, comprising retrieving by an object repository the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects.

79. (new) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

creating a structure context description that describes a set of objects;
associating the structure context description with each object in the set of objects;
receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first attribute of a first object in the set of objects; and
in response to receiving the request:
 retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the first object;
 returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the first object to the application;
 using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to the first attribute of other objects in the set of objects;
 retrieving the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects; and
 placing in cache the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects for future use.

80. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 79, having stored thereon further computer-executable instructions for storing the structure context description in at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

81. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 79, wherein the computer-executable instructions for retrieving the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects comprise computer-executable instructions for retrieving by an object repository the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects.

82. (new) A system for retrieving data for a set of objects prior to an explicit request for access to the data, each object in the set comprising a plurality of attributes, the system comprising:
 a processor operative to execute computer executable instructions; and
 memory having stored therein computer executable instructions for performing the following steps:

creating a structure context description that describes the set of objects;
associating the structure context description with each object in the set
of objects;

receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first
attribute of a first object in the set of objects; and

in response to receiving the request:

retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the first
object;

returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the first
object to the application;

using the structure context description to identify data
corresponding to the first attribute of other objects in the set of objects;

retrieving the data corresponding to the first attribute of the
other objects in the set of objects; and

placing in cache the data corresponding to the first attribute of
the other objects in the set of objects for future use.

83. (new) The system of claim 82, wherein the structure context description is stored in
at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory
allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

84. (new) The system of claim 82, further comprising an object repository for retrieving
the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects.

85. (new) A method for retrieving data for an object prior to an explicit request for
access to the data, the object comprising a plurality of attributes, the method comprising:
creating a structure context description that describes the object;
associating the structure context description with the object;
receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first attribute of
the first object; and
in response to receiving the request:

- retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the object;
- returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the object to the application;
- using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to other attributes of the object;
- retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object; and
- placing in cache the data corresponding to other attributes of the object for future use.

86. (new) The method of claim 85, further comprising storing the structure context description in at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

87. (new) The method of claim 85, comprising retrieving by an object repository the data corresponding to other attributes of the object.

88. (new) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

- creating a structure context description that describes an object;
- associating the structure context description with the object;
- receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first attribute of the first object; and
- in response to receiving the request:
 - retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the object;
 - returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the object to the application;
 - using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to other attributes of the object;
 - retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object; and
 - placing in cache the data corresponding to other attributes of the object for future use.

89. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 88, having stored thereon further computer-executable instructions for storing the structure context description in at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

90. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 88, wherein the computer-executable instructions for retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object comprise retrieving by an object repository the data corresponding to other attributes of the object.

91. (new) A system for retrieving data for a set of objects prior to an explicit request for access to the data, each object in the set comprising a plurality of attributes, the system comprising:

- a processor operative to execute computer executable instructions; and
- memory having stored therein computer executable instructions for performing the following steps:
 - creating a structure context description that describes an object;
 - associating the structure context description with the object;
 - receiving from an application a request for data corresponding to a first attribute of the first object; and
 - in response to receiving the request:
 - retrieving data corresponding to the first attribute of the object;
 - returning the data corresponding to the first attribute of the object to the application;
 - using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to other attributes of the object;
 - retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object; and
 - placing in cache the data corresponding to other attributes of the object for future use.

92. (new) The system of claim 91, wherein the structure context description is stored in at least one member of a group comprising memory of a client application program, memory allocated to a data storage system, and a table of a relational database.

93. (new) The system of claim 91, further comprising an object repository for retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object.